PLEA FOR PASSAGE OF HULL ARMY BILL.

REASONS, WHY THIS IS SUPERIOR TO SENATOR COCKRELL'S MEASURE-NEED FOR AC-TION BY PRESENT CONGRESS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Feb. 19.—The following statement from the War Department on pending Army legislation and the needs of the service was issued today with a request for its publication:

day with a request for its publication:

To-morrow the Senate will take up what is now conceded to be the most important subject before congress—the reorganization of the Regular Army. The Military Committee has submitted two bills for its consideration. One of these, the House (known as the Hull) bill is reported with only few amendments by its chairman, Senator Hawley, an expert in matters relating to military organization. It has been perfected by the committee, including the Democratic members, in several particulars, the most noteworthy and valuable, perhaps, being the provision increasing the corps of cadets by one hundred and insuring that great desideratum an adequate source of supply for vacant second fleutenancies.

ties.

The measure, which has been thought out and The measure, which has been thought out and framed with great care, preserves the present organization and slightly strengthens the cavalry, augments the artillery and organizes that arm on a scientific basis suited to our conditions, gives to the infantry the long-wished-for and much-needed three-battailon organization, and makes only such additions to the staff as are absolutely indispensable. Under its provisions entrance to any branch of the Army cannot be obtained until after a candidate for a commission has demonstrated his fitness for it to the satisfaction of a competent examing board. The clause empowering the President to extend or contract the enlisted strength according to the necessities of the country, providing for the first time a scheme adopted iong since for all modern European systems, is perhaps one of its most valuable features.

DEFECTS OF THE COCKRELL BILL.

DEFECTS OF THE COCKRELL BILL

The other bill, brought forward by Senator Cockrell and supported by his Democratic colleagues on the committee, will not stand the test of close scrutiny. Its first section directs the disbandment volunteer army within a specified period Spain. Sections 2 and 3 contain its principal provisions. By the former, authority is conferred for continuing the Regular Army at its war strength until July 1, 180, while the third section authorizes the Fresident to raise military forces, to the number of thirty-five thousand, in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Islands of the Pacific, to be known, respectively, as the Army of Cuba, the Army of Porto Rico and the Army of the Islands of the Pacific, to be composed of the Inhabitants of such islands. No organization whatever is provided in the bill for this force, nor does it determine what relation it shall sustain toward the permanent military establishment of the United States, and no professional, educational or other test is prescribed for the persons who are to officer it, and who, apparently, may be appointed in unilmited numbers.

But the principal defects of the bill are not what it provides, but what it fails to provide. First, it does not provide for any additional general officers, so greatly needed in the administration of affairs in Cuba. Porto Rico and the Philippines. It would leave the Army, as now organized, with only three major-generals and six brigadier-generals, which allows only one general officer for each of the military departments in the United States, and one for commanding general of the Army.

Cuba now constitutes a military division, commanded by a major-general and, moreover, comprises six military departments, commanded by general officers of volunteers. In Porto Rico there is a necessity for at least one general officer required for an army corps, so that if Senator Cockrell's bill should become law it would leave us deficient not only in enlisted force, but without any general officers to administer the important duties now devolving upon the Government. Moreover, this bill fails to make any provision whatever for the increase in the general staff, which is urgently called for by the necessities of the situation in our new possessions. Spain. Sections 2 and 3 contain its principal provisions. By the former, authority is conferred for

LACK OF TRAINED STAFF OFFICERS. The criticism that has been passed upon the Department has been the absence of sufficiently trained staff officers. The Cockrell amendment would perpetuate this alleged lameness. Should his bill be passed into law, the Adjutant, Inspector, Quartermaster, Subsistence, Medical and Pay departments would be left with only the bare skele-

quartermaster. Subsistence, Medical and Fay departments would be left with only the bare skeleton of the staff organizations that we have had
for the administering of affairs in the United
States alone previous to the declaration of war
with Spain. It would be difficult to conceive a bill
that would more effectually cripple and minimize
the efficiency of the military service.

The returns of the War Department show the
strength of the Regular Army at this time to
be only a few less than 60,000 enlisted men. Of these
there are nearly 14,000 in Cuba, and a like number
in or on the way to the Philippines; and in Porto
Rico, 4,586; leaving the total enlisted men of the
Regular Army in the United States 24,000. Of these
6,000 are held in readiness for dispatch to refine or
the army at Manila. This would leave the total
enlisted strength of the Army within the United
States less than 18,000, or nearly 4,000 less than is
necessary to furnish a single relief to man the guns
now on our searcoast fortifications. It would compet
the abandonment of all our posts in the interior,
would strip the Indian country of troops and leave
none to supply the requirements of an exigent condition.

The Hawley bill fixes the permament military es-

on. Hawley bill fixes the permanent military establishment at the minimum of 50,000, a force that is smaller in proportion to population and wealth of country than fixed by any other act of Congress. As shown by the last census there was one soldler for every \$2,500,000 of property; in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every \$1,500,000 in 1850 there was one soldler for every some one that there shall be one hundred detailed for the instruction of the young men of the country, but the absence of officers from their regiments by reason of wounds and sickness and of the necessity of the services in connection with the muster-out of volunteer regiments compelled the Department to withdraw instructors from every one of these educational institutions.

NEED OF OFFICERS ABROAD.

Neither has it been able to attach officers to our embassles and legations abroad. Whereas there should be one at every European capital, there are now only three in all, and those who were recalled to participate in the war cannot be returned. The passage of the Hawley bill would enable the Department to meet this urgent reenable the Department to meet this urgent requirement, and also to re-establish the schools at Fort Leavenworth, the Artillery School at Fort Monroe, and the Cavalry and Light Artillery School at Fort Riley, all of which are now closed for the want of officers. The amendment offered by Schaotor Cockrell proposes to stamp with the approval of Congress the very evils the Department had to meet at the outbreak of the war, and which are now only partly overcome by the temporary use of volunteer affects.

to meet at the outbreak of the war, and which are now only partly overcome by the temporary use of volunteer officers.

The passage of the Cockrell bill would discharge at once all the volunteer quartermasters, medical officers, commissaries, many of whom are officers of the Regular Army, holding volunteer commissions, and would leave the Department, as has been above stated, with a corps of staff officers wholly inadequate to the increased demands that are being made from every quarter. If it be urked that the services of these Regular officers now on volunteer duty would, after muster out, he still available in their lower Regular grades, the fact must not be overlooked that the service has suffered, and is still suffering, for the reason that the Department has been compelled to send regiments to the battle-field insufficiently officered, in order that the more important, indeed, vitally important, staff work be not neglected.

HULL BILL PREPARED BY OFFICERS.

HULL BILL PREPARED BY OFFICERS. The bill reported by Senator Hawley provides only for the absolute needs of the service of efficiency and economy. It was, at the instance of Mr. Hull, prepared under the supervision of the Adjutant-General of the Army, by General Schwan, Colonel Carter, Majors Heistand, Johnston and Simpson, officers of long service and of ston and Simpson, officers of long service and of the highest order of ability, possessing in an un-usual degree the confidence of the Army. No bil-ever had so nearly the unanimous approval of the entire Army. The line no less than the sanf are agreed upon its merits. Its passage would give promotion to officers that have earned it by the hardest kind of frontier and battle service, and who will begrudge them this recognition? Other-wise our gallant officers must go without reward beyond a sense of duty well done. It will not be fair to the President or just to the country if this well-considered bill is not made a law. It will not meet the absolute needs of the situation to put it off until Congress comes together again. An effi-cient army is demanded right now—it is needed at

Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites is pure and palatable.

For years it has been used for coughs and colds, for consumption, for those whose blood is thin or colorless, whose systems are emaciated or run down.

For children it means health and strength, stronger bones and teeth, and food for the growing mind.

WAR DEPARTMENT WISHES once-must be provided now, and without delaythe situation is not such that admits of delay,
delay would be hurtful to a degree distressing to

delay would be huriful to a degree distressing to contemplate.

The natives of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines do not understand our purposes and ways of government sufficiently to admit of their being made part of our military establishment to the extent of organizing them into companies, battailons and regiments at once. Our officers of greatest experience with them are of this opinion. In time this could deubtless be done, but it will require education. By degrees a company could be given to a regiment to be utilized as scouts and guides; forther on a battailon could be added, and in time, things working well, regiments could be organized. But it will take time-so much time that for the uses of the immediate present and some time in the future they could not be wisely counted as affording any considerable strength to the service, however many might be provided for by a Congressional act. They are a possible, even probable, factor of the future, but not for the present. We are confronted with conditions that we cannot evade, but must meet—meet in a business-like, straightforward way; no makeshift will meet the demands of the hour; our needs are immediate and imperative.

TRADE WITH GERMANY.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS STEADILY IN-CREASING.

MUCH UNNECESSARY ANXIETY MANIFESTED IN BOTH COUNTRIES OVER COMMER-CIAL RELATIONS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 19.-A good deal of unnecessary anxiety seems to be exhibited both in Germany and the United States about the trade relations between the two countries. Some figures just prepared by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics show that the supposition that American trade in Germany or German trade in America is being disturbed or de pressed by existing conditions seems to be unfounded. Certainly, the United States is giving Germany a larger percentage of her import trade than ever before, and is selling to Germany a larger percentage of her exports than ever before. American exports to Germany increased over 11 per cent in the last six months, compared with the corresponding six months of the preceding year, which of themselves were phenomenally large, and the imports from Germany into the United States in the last six months were nearly 25 per cent greater than those of the corresponding six months

of last year.

The share of this country's trade given to Germany has steadily increased during the last decade. as has also the share which Germany takes of American exports. A decade ago 10 per cent of the imports from the United States was taken from Germany, while now 13 per cent comes from that country; a decade ago 8 per cent of American exports went to Germany, now over 13 per cent goes to that country, and in the last half of the calendar year 1807 exports to Germany were \$32, 632,122, and in the last half of the calendar year 1898 were \$40,615,770, an increase of nearly 25 per American exports to Germany in the half of the heavy export year 1897 were \$77,182,053, and in the last half of 1898 were \$85,903,120. ' Even in meats and provisions the exports to Germany in 1898 show a marked gain in nearly all classes. In salted or pickled beef the exportations increased more than 25 per cent in 1898 over 1897. Exports of bacon increased 25 per cent, or nearly 10,000,000 pounds; those of hams increased from less than 5,000,000 pounds to nearly 12,000,000 pounds; those of pork, fresh and salted, from less than 3,000,000 pounds to nearly 12,000,000; those of lard from 205,-000,000 pounds to 230,000,000 pounds, while in fruits and nuts the exports of 1898 were nearly 50 per cent in excess of those of 1896 and only slightly below those of 1897.

The following table shows the exports of leading articles from the United States to Germany in the calendar year 1898, compared with the full calendar year 1896, the last full calendar year prior to the nactment of the present tariff law:

Articles.	1890.	1898.
Cotton	\$46.088,120	\$53,861,674
Lard	8,324,635	14,034,380
Mineral oils		6,819,384
Oil cake		4,296,856
OH case	Car (1961) 16 (19-18-18)	4,302,213
Tobacco		5,745,116
Wheat		8 027 002
Copper	3 Tall Land Clay (Ca)	15,860,888
Corn		2,983,600
Bacon	199	1.982,102
Oleomargarine		1,247,018
Agricultural implements		1.018.465
Horses		1.511.301
Wheat flour		1.898,432
Fertilizers		1.288.793
Fruits and nuts		1.033,898
Paraffine	50 (2) 2 (2) (2)	1.297,710
Hams		1,017,538
Heeds		1.119.671
Timber		888.641
Lumber		722,616
Tallow		835.895
Bullders' hardware		806.401
Sewing machines		834 721
Leather		760,500
Naval stores		761,652
Turpentine	C 0110000 (200.11)	882.812
Cottonwed off		710.707
Pork, fresh or salted		342,507
Canned beef		1987 750
Salted beef	338,208	257,381
Furniture	260,516	103.357
Books	. 116,419	100 177
Chrringes, cars, etc	07,382	225,711
Cotton manufactures	200,376	543,721
Furs	675,651	
Hides	. 956,677	454,300
Butter	. 264,103	95,013
Boots and shoes	10,2500	67,426
Clocks and watches	15,000	13,178
	100	

The following table shows the imports of the United States by fiscal years since 1888, the amount received from Germany and the percentage which it formed of the total, the first half of the fiscal

5.600			
1888	\$723,057,114	\$78,421,835	10.8
1889	AND A SECURITY AND LABOUR.	81,742,546	10.0
18(4)		98,837,003	12.5
		97,816,383	11.5
		82,907,553	10.0
1802		96,210,203	11.1
1893	ART A CHARLE STATES	60.387.005	10.6
1894			
1895	731,969,965	81,014,065	11.1
1896	770,724,674	94,240,893	12.1
1897		111,210,614	14.5
1898		OD, CHO. SHAT	11.3
1899 (six months).		40,615,710	13.1
The following United States by exported to Ger formed of the to 1899 being also b	y fiscal years at many and the otal, the first h	percentage wh	nount ich it
Piscal.	Total exports.	Exports to Pe Germany, Ger	r et. to
1888	\$005.054-507	\$56,414,171	
		68,002,594	9.1
1880		85,563,312	9.9
1890	CH110W0.004	740,40,40,40	0.5000

AFTER A GREAT COPPER LEDGE.

PLANS TO LOCATE A CLAIM IN THE GRAND CANTON OF THE COLORADO.

Williams, Ariz., Feb. 19 (Special) - Down in the deepest depth of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, beneath the shadow of the tremendous Powell Promontory, is a copper ledge such as has never been worked by mortal. It has been seen by many prospectors and explorers, and rock from it has been secured by employing Yava-Supai Indians to swim the Colorado at favorable times and scale the opposite precipice. The ore is base, abounding in sulphur, and runs about 20 per cent copper-no an unusual percentage. But the ledge is an enormous one, more than one hundred feet in width. It is exposed in vertical depth for fully eight hundred feet, filling a fissure in the titanic syenite foundation of the canyon's many strata.

The ledge lies immediately on the northern side of the river, almost due north of Ash Fork. The fact that it lies almost eight thousand feet down in the earth and across a raging torrent has been sufficient reason why it has not been located. It has been appreciated that immense capital would be necessary to work it, and that first the canyon's water-power must be harnessed. This capital, it is now stated, has been found. An association of now stated, has been found. An association of New-York men is prepared to work the mine, whatever be the initial cost for preparation. M. C. Sharpnech, a skilled prospector only lately returned from the Kiondike, left Williams yesterday with a party of men, prepared to locate the great ledge. He has taken with him a strong boat, built for him here. This craft will be dragged down the Hright Angel trail, north of this point, to the river, an undertaking that will consume several days. After launching the boat little difficulty is anticipated, for the river, owing to the cold weather at its head waters, is the lowest known for years.

ELECTION IN NEW-BRUNSWICK.

St. John, N. B., Feb. 19.-The provincial general St. John, N. B., Feb. 18.—The provincial general election held yesterday in New-Brunswick resulted in the return of forty supporters of Emmerson's administration, four straight Conservatives and two Independents. Since 1883 the government of the province has been in the hands of a coulition Baby gains in weight and thrives when Scott's Emulsion is added to its milk.

Soe, and \$1.60, all druggists.

SOOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

the province has been in the hands of a conlition party, successively led by A. G. Blair, now Minister of Railways in the Cabinet of Sir Wilfrid Laurier; the late James Mitchell, and for the last two years, H. R. Emmerson. Yesterday's election was the Administration's fifth appeal to the electorate of the province. All the members of the Cabinet, including the Premier. have been returned with substantial majorities. The Opposition leader, Stockton, of St. John, suffered defeat on his full ticket. ALASKAN EXPLORATION.

LIEUTENANT CASTNER'S PERILOUS JOUR-NEY IN THE YUKON COUNTRY.

TERRIBLE HARDSHIPS SUFFERED BY THE LITTLE PARTY-SUBSISTING ON MULE FLESH

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Feb. 12.—The rigors of the Alaskan

attend reconnoissances in the Yukon country are

set forth in a report which has been received at the War Department from one of the exploration parties sent out to secure more accurate information regarding the most northern territory of the United States. A number of such expeditions are now making surveys, but nothing had been heard of them for several months, until Captain E. F. Glenn, 25th Infantry, sent in a report of the ex-periences of Lieutenant J. C. Castner, 4th Infantry at the head of one of the small parties under his

command. This report, dated October 13, details the experiences of Lieutenant Castner since leaving Captain Glenn at Camp Separation, on August 30 last, until his return to the mouth of Chena River on September 30, during which period nearly one hundred miles of territory were covered in an

effort to reach Circle City. The trip was abandoned on account of lack of food and the great privations encountered by Lieucompanied him. The supplies, consisting of twenty days' short rations, blankets, axes, etc., were carried on two mules, named Weyler and Jack. The party met with many obstacles in crossing the Delta River, and narrowly escaped being drowned several times in the glacial waters. The mules were really an incumbrance much of the time, and they were taken across the streams with great difficulty. On one occasion one of the mules was used as a means of propulsion for a raft, but the animal was soon overcome by the cold and became a dead weight, causing the raft to be whirled round and round by the currents. The party was compelled to camp many nights without protection other than afforded by the blankets, and the trail followed led the men across numerous ravines canyons and failen timber. Weyler failed rapidly and delayed the party, and it was finally decid abandon him, and part of his pack was transferred

On September 7 Castner found his own strength failing for want of food, and the situation became serious when it was discovered that the maps carried afforded little accurate information of the country. Eleven grouse killed on the 5th furnished food for the two succeeding days. At this time Lieutenant Castner made an effort to ford the river, but he was carried off his feet by the swift current and lost valuable tools. He was able to land on the shore about three-quarters of a mile from where he started to wade. On Septemper 10 Jack showed signs of blind-staggers, and it was decided to kill him. Some of the meat was packed up and carried by the men. The trail ontinued across streams and over the roughest kind of roads, which apparently had never before been traversed, the party much of the time being compelled to make a trail.

On September 13 the streams swelled to the proportions of mountain torrents, full of long rapids, the strength of the men dwindled, and it was de firearms. On September 14 the party made eleven miles over mossy roadways, which impeded their progress greatly. The next day the men walked with bleeding feet over rough rock, suffering pain at every step. The supply of food was reduced to two weeks stock of tea and coffee, a slice of bacon for supper, and another for breakfast. Ahead of the party was a mountainous country. There was mo sign of a divide and no evidence of the Yukon waters, while, if the men had been in the best physical condition, it would have taken a week to have gone over the hills: then there was the risk that they would find nothing on the other side. It was here that Castner decided to retrain the steps with the hope of reaching the body of the mule which had been killed. On September 16 the party was without a particle of food, coffee constituting the morning meal. Fortunately Castner killed two ducks, and these served as the food for supper.

On September 17 the party subsisted in the morning on coffee, and later in the day one of the soliders encountered three wolves. He ared six shots before he killed one of the animals, which proved to be a young Yukon wolf, the meat of which was speedily cooked and proved most welcome to the tired and hungry explorers. Heutenant Castner says it tasted much like mutton.

On September 18 the party became discouraged at the slow progress made, and Castner determined to build a raft. The blankets which had been abandoned were recovered, and ribbons from them were used to tie the logs together. Castner being without an axe, the roots of the trees used were burned. The next day the party embarked, and were swept along by the swift current with tremendous velocity. On suddenly rounding a curve in the river the raft and its occupants were thrown in and under a buge timber fam, everything the men possessed being lost, and one of them came nor drowning. They reached the shore with great difficulty and wisked ten miles in their stocking feet. On September 20 the days. From this time until September 20 these t firearms. On September 14 the party made eleve miles over mossy roadways, which impeded their

and portions of the body secured on which the party substated for a few days. From this time until September 20 these three men lived on berries and roots and slept without cover, walking with bleeding feet sixty-five miles in six days until they reached an Indian encampment.

Lieutenant Castner says it will be months before he will be able to wear shoes. He feels greatly chagrined over the fallure of his expedition, but extracts satisfaction from the fact that he and the two soldiers were the first white men to go from end to end of the slough around Bates Rapid, a discovery of considerable importance.

CLOSE OF THE LONG BICYCLE RACE.

MILLER'S LEAD UNAPPROACHABLE-AARONSON'S

GAME FIGHT. San Francisco, Feb. 19.-No men ever longed more for the close of a contest than the dozen remaining contestants in the international six-day bicycle race at M-chanics' Pavillon when at 6 o'clock to-night they entered the last half-dozen hours of the ride. Nothing but the nearness of the finish and the stimulus of a cheering crowd could have gept them at their task. Human en-durance had reached the point where reason deserts the body, and total collapse was imminent. Enormous crowds remained in the pavilion throughout Saturday night and Sunday. There

was plenty of enthusiasm when Miller at the end of the 127th hour rode his 2,000th mile in 2:25 3-5 un-As the day were on sprinting became infrequent,

except in the cases of Nawn and Barnaby, who were repeatedly charged with energy by an elec-

were repeatedly charged with energy by an elec-tric battery, and came out to exhaust their false vitality in wild sprints.

The fight of the last half-dozen hours has been between Fredericks and Aaronson for second place. For a time it seemed as if Fredericks would suc-ceed in overhauling the Swedish ridar, but with the essistance of Julius's pacing Aaronson made a game ride throughout the afternoon and evening, and about 7 c'clock apparently had second place to a certainty.

ertainty, mm went down the line to-day, dropping mile or mile to Aaronson and Fredericks. He was ble to overcome his physical weakness, though tried hard to do so. Hale was in bad shage thaily all day. He imagined himself riding to

speed for a lew lape, and old rit.
Unlike some of the other riders, Miller has seldom made pace, but has kept close in the rear of the stronger riders, whom he would follow like a shadow. By this system he wore down Glinm, who was until the besinning of the fifth day believed to

Miller's former record for the time was 1,990 miles.

RIOT IN A CHICAGO THEATRE.

PRECIPITATED BY FAILURE TO RETURN MONEY WHEN NO PERFORMANCE OCCURRED.

Chicago, Feb. 19 .- A riot, in which two thousand men, women and children took part, occurred this afternoon at the Star Theatre, at Sedgwick and Division sts., and before the police arrived the in-terior of the theatre had been badly damaged. terior of the theatre had been badly damaged. Scenery which was to have been used in the presentation of a play had been tied up by legal proceedings, and after the audience had waited until 420 p.m. for the curtain to go up many began to clamor for the return of their money. This was refused at the box office, and two minutes afterward chairs were broken in pleces and hurled at the stage, chandellers were broken, carpets were torn up, and the theatre and the sidewark outside was a mass of fighting, yelling humanity. The clanging of the patrol-wagon bells scattered the crowd in a hurry, however. Later in the afternoon money was refunded to those who presented their coupons.

NOT IN THE TANNERS' COMBINATION. Milwaukee, Feb. 19.-Representatives of Pflster & Verfel and the Zohrlaut Leather Company deny that these firms are interested in the proposed leather trust, but admit that they have been ap-proached on the subject.

PAYING FOR DEAD HORSES.

ROOSEVELTS CPHILL FIGHT FOR A LOW TAX RATE.

SOME SORT OF A CANAL DEFICIENCY BILL NECESSARY-APPROPRIATION BILLS

Albany, Feb. 19 (Special).-It is expected that committee of the Legislature of 1898 which inspectclimate in the fall months and the difficulties which d the payrolls of every State Department will make its report this week on the results of that examination, its study of the system of making appropriations by the Legislature, and the habits of Department chiefs when they get control of the money for their bureaus. One of the main recommendations of this report, it is said, will be that it be made a misdemeanor for any head of a State sureau to exceed his appropriation. Another rec mmendation will be that the Boards of Managers of State institutions be held to strict accountability if they make contracts, for the construction of for instance, beyond their appropriations. A third suggestion will be that no State Department shall be permitted to increase its number of permanent employes or make many 'temporary appointments" without the direct authority of the Legislature.

In the matter of committing the State to great expenditures without seeing clearly where the money is to come from, the case of the recent canal officials, George W. Aldridge, Superintendent of Public Works, and Campbell W. Adams, State Engineer, is the worst, and requires the most serious onsideration of Governor Roosevelt and the Legislature. Mr. Aldridge and Mr. Adams appear to have committed the State to expenditures which will inevitably increase the 'ax rate, unless the Governor, and the Legislature exercise the most rigid economy. Possibly with all their effort they may not be able to keep down the tax rate, as they will have to meet large deficiencies, owing to neglect of Governor Black and the Legislature of 18% to make sufficient appropriations for the mainten-ance of various other departments besides the canal department. Mr. Black kept down the tax rate by this policy of not paying certain bills, which must now be paid.

TRAIL OF ALDRIDGE AND ADAMS.

It appears from a table just prepared by Colonel John N. Partridge, the Superintendent of Public Works, and State Engineer Bond that Messrs. Adams and Aldridge committed the State to canal contracts on which there have already been expended the following amounts:

 Erie Canal Eastern Division
 \$1,194,623 51

 Erie Canal Middle Division
 2,107,425 70

 Erie Canal Western Division
 1,050,281 17

 Erie Canal Western Division
 1,050,281 17

 Express Canal Western Division
 1,050,281 17
 Oswego Canal. Champlain Caral..... \$7,228,795.08 In another table it is declared that the total estimated cost of the awarded contracts, toward which \$9,000,000 has already been appropriated, is as

follows: Erie Canal Enstern Division.... Erie Canal Maddle Division..... Erie Canal Western Division... Oswego Canal....

With \$9,000,000 appropriated and contracts awardd to the extent of \$12,410,320 46, it is obvious that the State is called upon to meet a deficit in this canal account of at least \$3,410,320 46. Colonel Partridge and Mr. Bond show that the canal deficit is even larger than is above stated, because the amount retained from contractors to insure the execution of their contracts, \$694,162.58, was not included in the total amount reported to have been paid on the contracts. Nor was there included the um of \$1,009,531 99 for advertising, inspection, disin fectants and engineering. The total of all payments made thus amounts to \$9,022,489.55, which is \$32,480.65 in excess of the amount available for the payment of these claims. Messrs. Partridge and Bond say that the Legislature will have to appropriate \$4,500,49753 in order to complete the awarded con-

NOT LIKELY TO BE SPENT,

The Canal Deficiency bill would thus amount to carly \$5,000,000 if the Legislature and the Governor should decide to pass such a measure. No such policy is likely to be adopted. State Engineer Bond stated yesterday that Colonel

Partridge and himself were trying to make some arrangement with the canal contractors by which they would consent to the cancellation of their

nearly completed that it will be to the interest of the State to complete them. My impression is that about half of the contractors are willing to make some sort of a compromise with the State." Evidently some sort of a canal deficiency bill will

have to be passed.

PROPOSED EXPENDITURES. The Legislature thus far is "liberal," as usual, in appropriation bills. Among the chief appropriation measures already introduced are the following:

Legislative contingent expenses.
Soldiers and Sailors Monument, Albany...
Erie Canal bridge Camillus...
Plan hatchery, Trenton, Oneida County...
Newspapers printing session laws.
Tuberculosis Hospital, Adirondacks.
Supreme Court clerks, Sixth and Seventh Canal bridge, Whiteshore, Oneida County notice sugar best culture districts
Eric Canal bridge Whiteshore, Oneida County
Promotion sugar best culture.
Eric Canal bridge, Lockport.
State Labrary building site. Albany.
Champiain Canal bridge, Waterford
Veterinary College Cornell
Craig Cident for Epilepties.
Obstructions Bond and Wood creeks
Distructions Bond and Wood creeks
Dearmage. Lockport. Reyalton and Pendleton, by Mud Creek.
Bedford Reformatory for Women.
Repairs rifle ranges at Creekmoor.
Actionn Armory.
Thomas Asylum, Destitute Indian Children.
Interest on canal debt.
Eastern Reformatory Napanock
Pan American Exposition
Public buildings
Lorm, Saranac River
Gunril lock, Cayuga and Seneca Canal
New York's commerce decline inquiry.
Buffal, elevators, to protect.
Adicandack Park purchases
Locmis Sanitarium.
Support of State prisons.
Pifts one transfer less appealsers

Appropriation hill (\$10,688,912.65) exclusive of refunds 9,1645,793,43

This list does not include \$300,000 which it is proposed to spend for a new magazine rifle for the National Guard. The appropriation bills, therefore, already amount to over \$14,000,000, with no canal

deficiency bill, which may amount to \$1,000,000 or

more, yet to be introduced. TO TEMPT CORPORATIONS TO NEW-YORK, Albany, Feb. 19.-It is expected that a bill will be San José.

All through Saturday night and Sunday the poor tellows, Jaded and worn, with drawn faces and staring eyes, circled the track, sometimes at a shall bace and then again, under the influence of inspiring marches by the band and the urating of triendly voices, the riders would increase their speed for a few laps, and then drop back into the old rut.

ation will induce some of these corporations to with-draw from New-Jersey and the greater number of corporations under the laws of New-York will pro-duce a greater revenue. This bill is expected to have the support of the Merchants' Association of FIRE-INSURANCE REPORTS.

SUMMARY OF THE BUSINESS DONE IN THIS STATE LAST YEAR.

Albany, Feb. 19 (Special).-Parts I and II of the report of Louis F. Payn, State Superintendent of Insurance, for the year 1898, comprising the statistics and business of the fire and marine companies. will be sent to the Legislature to-morrow night. The assets of the fire and fire-marine insur nce companies of this country and fire ance companies of other countries, United States branches, doing business in this State on December 31, 1898, aggregate \$301,168,040, classified as follows; New-York joint-stock companies, \$87,154,968; joint-steck companies of other States, \$141,203,218; foreign fire insurance companies, United States branches, \$71,097,347; New-York mutuals, \$1,089,631; mutuals of other States, \$712,275. Compared with 1897 these figures show an aggregate increase of \$15,218,834.

The limbilities of these companies, excepting scrip and capital, are: New-York joint-stock companie \$34,330,526; other States' joint-stock companies, \$00, 254,615; fire insurance companies of other countries, United States branches, \$38,561,741; New-York mutuals, \$35,014; other States' mutuals, \$389,478; total, \$131,840,776, an increase of \$4,627,288. The total of scrip liabilities for 1898 is \$12,110, and of capital, The receipts for the year were \$140,019,261; the net

excess of receipts over dishursements, \$7.680.282. One hundred and twenty-two companies received \$9,129,892 more than they disbursed, and forty-nine disbursed \$1,450,809 more than they received. The disbursements show \$132,338,978, which was \$14,523. 655 more than was reported for 1897. The Amer-lean capital of foreign companies was \$22,892,924, an ncrease of \$1,756,178.

The 185 companies in operation at the close of the year were covering \$20,216,838,434 of risks in force. During the year these companies, with the exception of the eight New-York mutuals for \$181.

exception of the eight New-York mutuals for \$181.-20.572, in gross premium, undertook to carry \$20.-55.837.429 of risks, an average premium of \$9 cents for every \$100 insured.

The disposition of the receipts was \$137.645.777 received in premiums, \$50.447.529 paid for losses, \$52.-225.188 for expenses and \$7.163.782 for dividends.

The fire premiums received were \$19.561.031; fire losses paid, \$10.041.944; fire losses incurred, \$11.312.-776.

The estimated amount of expense for the transaction of this business is \$6,620.532, which, if added to the incurred losses, makes a total of \$17.-323.99, showing, as compared with the premiums received over the losses ancurred and estimated expenses of \$1.323.286.

During the year seven joint-stock fire and fremarine insurance companies were incorporated within the State, with capitals aggregating \$1.400.-900, while eight were admitted to transact business herein, with capitals aggregating \$2.253.81. Three New-York joint-stock fire and fire-marine companies discontinued business, with capitals aggregating adjacentinued business.

New-York Joint-stock fire and fire-marine companies discontinued business, with capitals aggregating \$60,000, and three other State joint-stock fire and fire-marine companies withdrew, with capitals aggregating \$90,000. Hence, there has been added from the capital previously engaged in the business of fire and fire-marine insurance in this \$7,40 the sum of \$2,362,481. The number of fire and fire-marine insurance companies transacting business in the State at the close of 1598 was 171. The 7288ts of such companies reporting to the Department at the close of 1598 were \$301,168,000, an increase of \$15,248,521 over 1897. Their surplus has increased while their liability on account of uncarned premiums has decreased in comparison with the amount of insurance in force. The increase in surplus is largely due to the advance in securities owned, and not to the profits of the underwriting business.

business.

During the year one marine insurance company of another country withdrew from the State, leaving fourteen marine corporations in operation. The assets of such companies reporting at the close of 1888 were \$20.806.834 as against \$20.804.488 for December 31, 1897. The company which withdrew in 1898 had assets on December 31, 1897, of

A PLEASANT DAY AT LAST.

SNOW PILES, HOWEVER, STILL ENCUMBER MANY STREETS.

The heavy rain of Saturday afternoon and night did a great deal to lighten the labors of the Street Cleaning Department. It cut down the big heaps of snow that still encumber every street in the city appreciably, but the heaps still remain large nough to necessitate the application of force to remove them before the streets of the town will be anywhere near clean again. The piles of the 'beautiful' are beginning to take on their urban appearance in good earnest. They remained reaonably near white for a surprisingly large num per of days, but they have at last got down to ouslness and they look now like white kittens that have been sleeping in coal bins. The removal of the snow is this time the longest

job any contractor has had in many years. Su perintendent T. J. Bradish, who has charge of th work of removing the snow from the streets, sald yesterday morning that if there did not come another heavy fail of snow the streets would be cleamed in two weeks. He said that on Saturday 18,354 loads were removed, making a total of 451,641 loads taken from the streets this month, or a total of 656,561 cubic yards. Mr. Bradish said that the entire Department force, consisting of 1,899 sweepers, assisted by 3,899 additional men, were working yesterday, and that by last evening he expected that several streets in the business portion of the city would be perfectly free from the snow. He further said that all the work yesterday was being done below Sixty-sixth street, the men from the districts above that street being hrought downtown.

Mr. Bradish added that he was surprised that more of his employes did not report sick. He said that his force was nearly exhausted, a large number of them inving been working nearly every day and night since the big snowstorm. He cannot, at present tell when there will be a let-up in the work of his Department, as when the snow is removed the streets will be covered with a thick coatling of mud which will have to be taken away. work of removing the snow from the streets, said

BELATED LINERS IN.

THE ST. PAUL, THE CAMPANIA, THE NOORD LAND AND LA TOURAINE REPORT ROUGH WEATHER.

Four big transatiantic liners came into port y terday, a few hours behind their usual time for the voyage. The four were the American liner St. Toursine, and the Red Star steamer Noordland. from Antwerp. Every vessel reported heavy weather at sea, but none had any casualties to report. The Campania made her running on four days of her voyage by dead reckoning. She met the heaviest weather on last Thursday, when a big wave came aboard that did a little damage. The St. Paul also reported a rough passage. John Wallace Riddle, secretary of the American Legation

sengers. He comes home on a two months' leave of absence. La Touraine did not come in until dark and did not come up, because the Ice in the bay had rendered useless the lights of the channel huoys. She will land her passengers this morning. The United States transport Berlin arrived her yesterday from Porto Rico, bringing Major-Genera Montrose Graham and ninety-seven discharged sol-dlers.

diers.

The British tank steamer Orange Prince arrived here after a twenty-two days' voyage from Hamburg. She reported having passed several large beloegs and a number of smaller ones on February 8, when in latitude 48.40 and longitude 48.50.

There was little delay at the various plers over the examination of the personal baggage of the pussengers. The customs officers seem to be construing the much-hereted order of the Treasury Department a little more liberally. The result is much less friction and inconvenience.

SPEAKER NIXON'S ABSENCE. Albany, Feb. 19.-A close friend of Speaker Nixon

said the other day that the Sneaker would not pre-side over the deliberations of the Assembly until March I at the earliest. Mr. Nixon now sits up for a couple of hours daily, but he is still weak.

W. & J. Sloane Announce the Completion of the ex-

tensive additions and alterations to their warerooms, and invite an inspection of their most recent importations of

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